



Tobias Biancone, Yvette Hardie, Dadi Pudumjee & Bert Dettermann in Dialogue with Octavian Saiu

“What is happening with theatre? What will happen with the entire field of performing arts when the current disaster passes, eventually? How much longer are we able to withstand – individually and collectively – a crisis that has disrupted not only our work schedule and plans for a show, a season or a festival, but our very way of life? Such urgent questions have no answer or perhaps they have too many answers. All of us, those who are related to the universe of the stage one way or another, are haunted by them. We need these queries and, moreover, we are morally compelled to keep reflecting on them, in a period of time when our core values and the actual existence of the theatre that we love are threatened from all directions.

Such thoughts are imperative arguments for a special edition of *The Seasons of Theatre Dialogue*. My guests for this edition will try to answer the questions above and many more about the present and the future of performing arts. Who are these guests? The leaders of the oldest and most prestigious organizations of theatre practitioners: the **International Theatre Institute (ITI – UNESCO)**, the **International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People (ASSITEJ)**, the **International Organisation of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians (OISTAT)**, and the **International Puppetry Association (UNIMA)**.

Therefore, you are all invited to a debate on some very important and urgent issues with **Tobias Biancone** (Director General of **ITI-UNESCO**), **Yvette Hardie** (President of **ASSITEJ**), **Bert Dettermann** (President of **OISTAT**), and **Dadi Pudumjee** (President of **UNIMA**).

The survival and the mission of theatre, the current situation of those who believe in it, the condition of artists from all over the world and the mindset of spectators of all ages: these are the themes of a timely autumn edition of our seasonal Dialogues.” – **Octavian Saiu**

Tobias Biancone (Director General of **ITI-UNESCO**), **Yvette Hardie** (President of **ASSITEJ**), **Bert Determann** (President of **OISTAT**), and **Dadi Pudumjee** (President of **UNIMA**)

in Dialogue with **Octavian Saiu**

Watch the Premiere on <https://www.facebook.com/teatrelli/>

At Thursday, 12 November, starting 7 pm (EET) / 6 pm Paris Time

You may continue to watch the Dialogue over the Facebook after the event.



Professor **Octavian Saiu** is a scholar and professional theatre critic. He holds a PhD in Theatre Studies from National University of Theatre and Film (NUTF) in Romania, with a thesis about theatrical space, and another PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Otago in New Zealand, with a thesis about Samuel Beckett and Eugène Ionesco. He completed his Post-Doc in Modern Literature at the University of Otago and has been awarded his Habilitation in Theatre and Performing Arts. He teaches in the Postgraduate Programme of NUTF, the Doctoral School of Sibiu University and the Centre of Excellence in Visual Studies of the University of Bucharest. He was Visiting Fellow at the University of London, School of Advanced Study, and has taught courses and offered master classes as Visiting Professor at various universities in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, as well as the Grotowski Institute. He is Adjunct Secretary General of IATC and President of the Romanian Section – Theatre Studies of IATC. He has published academic articles in several international journals, as well as eleven books on theatre. He received the Critics' Award in 2010, the Award of the Union of Theatre Artists (UNITER) in 2013, and the Order of Cultural Merit from the President of Romania in 2020.